

Figure 36: Summary of Communication and Education Strategic Actions		
Strategy	Lead	Priority
1. To achieve better public support and participation in Corridor preservation efforts, direct, coordinate, and connect environmental education opportunities utilizing the established centers at the Blackbird State Forest and Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve, and incorporating the Millington Wildlife Management Area to provide opportunities, information and programs to local residents and decision-makers and to local schools, scouts, and 4H, for including Corridor habitat conservation in their educational curriculum.	DNRECFW, DNERR	
<i>Action Steps:</i> Develop/design educational programs around Corridor habitat/issues; focus on adult decision-makers and their children as a priority. Incorporate Corridor habitat/issues in children's programs at Blackbird State Forest Education Center and explore ways to reach adults through the education center. Utilize MWMA to educate on Corridor habitat and priorities through signage, trails, programs, etc. Incorporate Corridor habitat/issues in design and programs at new DNERR site. Develop a self-guided Corridor ecotour brochure that connects MWMA, BSF, DNERR via scenic roadways and includes instructions and descriptions of habitat/features/species to observe; disseminate at all three sites and through the state tourism office(s)	DNRECFW, community DDAF, community MD DNR, community DNERR, community DNERR, community	2005-6
2. Advance conservation in the Corridor beyond the planning phase, through coordinated regional planning and the creation of a non-governmental coordinator position for the Corridor.	DNRECFW	High
<i>Action Steps:</i> Provide a forum for information response/exchange and continued communication regarding Corridor conservation efforts beyond the planning period. Explore the creation of an NGO coordinator position in the Corridor to provide continued coordination; secure funding to support the needed capacity (possibly to implement other specific strategies, as well as coordination.) Explore the possibilities for creating a mechanism for regional planning under Delaware law.	DNRECFW DNRECFW, TNC, others DOSPC	2005 2005
3. Reduce non-point source pollution to streams and wetlands by conducting outreach to homeowners and homeowners' associations on how to reduce non-point source pollution from residential areas (lawn care, septic system care, management of yard waste), about Corridor habitat/values, and about the cost sharing grant opportunities available to landowners.	DNRECCP	High
<i>Action Steps:</i> Identify groupings of homeowners (med-small lots) and community groups (Ruritan, Lion's Clubs, churches) to which Coastal Program's outreach efforts can be directed. Contact existing and new homeowners' associations (as they develop) in the Corridor to conduct outreach on non-point source pollution using existing tools/capacity.	Community DNRECCP Community	2005 ongoing
4. Increase advocacy for Corridor conservation by developing and implementing an advocacy training program in the Corridor.	DNS	High
<i>Action Steps:</i> Develop and seek funding for a training program to produce educated advocates for the Corridor building on the existing DNS program and DNREC CP materials, and other expertise from the Corridor; incorporate Corridor-specific issues and priorities in the program. Cultivate, recruit, and train advocates (as funding allows.) Build advocate network in the Corridor, using "Get Active" program/software (to begin with) and advocacy training program (e	DNS, CRA DNS, CRA, community DNS, community	2005-6 2005-6
5. Enhance habitat on private lands by creating a "back-yard habitat" program for residential areas with forests, riparian areas, and/or coastal plain ponds in Corridor priority areas.	TNC	Medium
<i>Action Steps:</i> Target existing Delaware backyard habitat programs/capacity to Corridor priority areas and conduct outreach/assistance to small lot owners in/near Corridor priorities for coastal plain ponds, forest, and riparian buffers. Explore opportunities to extend/tailor backyard habitat programs specifically to Corridor priority habitats (esp. coastal plain ponds); use Corridor plan to develop/secure funding (potential sources include Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, Audubon, Chesapeake Bay Foundation.)	DNS, community DNS, CRA	
6. To build public awareness, understanding, community connections and support for Corridor issues and priorities, create a new suite of community programs/events.		Medium
<i>Action Steps:</i> Hold a "stream watch" training at the DNERR site on Blackbird Creek. Develop community support/capacity for instituting an annual or bi-annual community event ("Whale Wallow Weekend", modeled after Port Penn's Marsh Weekend); tie into/utilize wetland restoration efforts; work with state tourism office to market/advertise event. Implement an amphibian "road count" in coordination with the annual community event, to build awareness of amphibian diversity and interest in protecting coastal plain ponds (coordinate with or expand existing frog count and/or disseminate information on National Wildlife Federation's "frog watch" program for a more self-directed approach.) Implement a Corridor awards program in coordination with the annual community event, to provide recognition/awareness of good stewardship.	DNS, DNERR, community DNRECFW, community DNRECFW, CRA, community DNRECFW, community	
7. To help landowners take advantage of the conservation as a tool for estate and retirement planning, provide Corridor landowners with expert information and assistance.	TNC	Medium
<i>Action Steps:</i> Hold an estate planning seminar for farmer/landowners to provide information and resources. Find and implement a mechanism (based on a good model) for providing more individualized assistance to farmers/landowners, such as competitive grants or vouchers with a list of qualified professionals to choose from.	TNC, landowners TNC, landowners	2005
DNRECFW: DNREC Div. of Fish & Wildlife	TNC: The Nature Conservancy	
DNERR: Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve	CRA: Chester River Association	
DDAF: Delaware Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service	DNS: Delaware Nature Society	
MD DNR: Maryland Department of Natural Resources		
DOSPC: Delaware Office of State Planning Coordination		
DNRECCP: DNREC Coastal Programs		